

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1 1. A method of analyzing a data source, said method  
2 comprising:  
3 comparing the data source to a reference file;  
4 determining whether the data source is balanced in  
5 response to the comparing; and  
6 adjusting the data source based on the determining,  
7 wherein the adjusting results in a more balanced  
8 data source.
- 1 2. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 matching one or more records from the data source to  
3 one or more reference file records;  
4 generating a comparison master file based on the  
5 matching; and  
6 assigning an index number to each record in the  
7 comparison master file.
- 1 3. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 retrieving a rule corresponding to an element in the  
3 data source;  
4 determining whether the element in the data source  
5 approximates a corresponding value in the  
6 reference file based on the retrieved rule; and  
7 assigning a match to the element in response to the  
8 determination.
- 1 4. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 matching one or more records from the data source to  
3 one or more reference file records; and  
4 calculating a first bias value based upon the  
5 matching.

1 5. The method as described in claim 4 further comprising:  
2 matching one or more records from a second data source  
3 to one or more reference file records;  
4 calculating a second bias value based upon the  
5 matching; and  
6 comparing the first bias value to the second bias  
7 value.

1 6. The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:  
2 identifying a first data source sample size;  
3 comparing a first data source sample corresponding to  
4 the first data source sample size to the  
5 reference file;  
6 determining a match percentage based on the comparing;  
7 and  
8 calculating a second data source sample size by  
9 dividing the first data source sample size by the  
10 match percentage.

1 7. The method as described in claim 6 further comprising:  
2 identifying a second data source corresponding to the  
3 second data source sample size;  
4 matching one or more records from the second data  
5 source to one or more reference file records; and  
6 calculating a second match percentage based on the  
7 matching.

1 8. An information handling system comprising:  
2 one or more processors;  
3 a memory accessible by the processors;  
4 one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by  
5 the processors;

6 a data source handling tool to manage a data source  
7 stored on one of the nonvolatile storage devices,  
8 the data source handling tool including:  
9 means for comparing the data source to a  
10 reference file stored on one of the  
11 nonvolatile storage devices;  
12 means for determining whether the data source is  
13 balanced in response to the comparing; and  
14 means for adjusting the data source based on the  
15 determining, wherein the adjusting results  
16 in a more balanced data source.

1 9. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:  
3 means for matching one or more records from the data  
4 source to one or more reference file records;  
5 means for generating a comparison master file based on  
6 the matching; and  
7 means for assigning an index number to each record in  
8 the comparison master file.

1 10. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:  
3 means for retrieving a rule corresponding to an  
4 element in the data source from one of the  
5 nonvolatile storage devices;  
6 means for determining whether the element in the data  
7 source approximates a corresponding value in the  
8 reference file based on the retrieved rule; and  
9 means for assigning a match to the element in response  
10 to the determination.

1 11. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:  
3 means for matching one or more records from the data  
4 source to one or more reference file records; and  
5 means for calculating a first bias value based upon  
6 the matching.

1 12. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:  
3 means for matching one or more records from a second  
4 data source to one or more reference file  
5 records;  
6 means for calculating a second bias value based upon  
7 the matching; and  
8 means for comparing the first bias value to the second  
9 bias value.

1 13. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 8 further comprising:  
3 means for identifying a first data source sample size;  
4 means for comparing a first data source sample  
5 corresponding to the first data source sample  
6 size to the reference file;  
7 means for determining a match percentage based on the  
8 comparing; and  
9 means for calculating a second data source sample size  
10 by dividing the first data source sample size by  
11 the match percentage.

1 14. The information handling system as described in claim  
2 13 further comprising:

3 means for identifying a second data source  
4 corresponding to the second data source sample  
5 size;  
6 means for matching one or more records from the second  
7 data source to one or more reference file  
8 records; and  
9 means for calculating a second match percentage based  
10 on the matching.

1 15. A computer program product stored in a computer  
2 operable media for managing a data source, said  
3 computer program product comprising:  
4 means for comparing the data source to a reference  
5 file;  
6 means for determining whether the data source is  
7 balanced in response to the comparing; and  
8 means for adjusting the data source based on the  
9 determining, wherein the adjusting results in a  
10 more balanced data source.

1 16. The computer program product described in claim 15  
2 further comprising:  
3 means for matching one or more records from the data  
4 source to one or more reference file records;  
5 means for generating a comparison master file based on  
6 the matching; and  
7 means for assigning an index number to each record in  
8 the comparison master file.

1 17. The computer program product described in claim 15  
2 further comprising:

3 means for retrieving a rule corresponding to an  
4 element in the data source from the nonvolatile  
5 storage area;  
6 means for determining whether the element in the data  
7 source approximates a corresponding value in the  
8 reference file based on the retrieved rule; and  
9 means for assigning a match to the element in response  
10 to the determination.

1 18. The computer program product described in claim 15  
2 further comprising:  
3 means for matching one or more records from the data  
4 source to one or more reference file records; and  
5 means for calculating a first bias value based upon  
6 the matching.

1 19. The computer program product described in claim 15  
2 further comprising:  
3 means for matching one or more records from a second  
4 data source to one or more reference file  
5 records;  
6 means for calculating a second bias value based upon  
7 the matching; and  
8 means for comparing the first bias value to the second  
9 bias value.

1 20. The computer program product described in claim 15  
2 further comprising:  
3 means for identifying a first data source sample size;  
4 means for comparing a first data source sample  
5 corresponding to the first data source sample  
6 size to the reference file;

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7 means for determining a match percentage based on the  
8 comparing; and  
9 means for calculating a second data source sample size  
10 by dividing the first data source sample size by  
11 the match percentage.

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